

Message Text

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NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 OIC-04 SAM-01 NEA-14 AEC-11 DRC-01

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R 142355Z JUN 74
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6381
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4152
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY MADRID
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 3 USNATO 3427

E.O. 11652: GDS 12-31-82
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
SUBJ: DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING JUNE 14, 1974: AGENDA ITEM IV,
FORCE GOALS FOR THE PERIOD 1975-1980

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL; OTTAWA HOLD FOR SECSTATE PARTY AT NATOMIN

REF: DPC/D(74)10

BEGIN SUMMARY: UNDER AGENDA ITEM IV OF JUNE 14 DPC MINISTERIAL
MEETING, MINISTRS ENDORSED THE NATO FORCE GOALS FOR THE PERIOD
1975-1980 (SUBJECT TO NETHERLANDS AND UK RESERVATIONS) ADOPTED
ON THEIR BEHALF ON MAY 27 BY DPC PERM REPS (SEE DPC/D(74)10 AND
USNATO 2921). SYG LUNS IN SUMMING UP: REEMPHASIZED THAT FORCE
GOALS ACCEPTED WERE SUBJECT TO MINISTERIAL COMMENTS AT TODAY'S MEETING;
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NOTED STRONG MINISTERIAL AND CHAIRMAN, MC CRITICISM OF DRAFT
NETHERLANDS DEFENSE PLAN AND NETHERLANDS MOD STATEMENT THAT
HIS GOVERNMENT WILL CONFORM WITH NATO MBFR POLICY AGAINST
UNILATERAL FORCE REDUCTIONS; AND AGREED WITH SECDEF REP

(ELLSWORTH) RECOMMENDATION THAT DPC MAKE AN EARLY START IN DEVELOPMENT OF MAJOR CONTENT OF NEXT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION CENTERED ON DRAFT NETHERLANDS DEFENSE PLAN. NETHERLANDS MOD EMPHASIZED THAT DUTCH PROBLEMS HARBINGER PROBLEMS OF SMALLER ALLIES IN 1980'S AND NATO MUST SERIOUSLY ADDRESS GENERAL QUESTION OF A RATIONAL FORCE STRUCTURE; I.E. ONE THAT WOULD RATIONALIZE INTO A COMMON WHOLE THE INDIVIDUAL EFFORTS OF THE SEPARATE COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY.

1. UNDER AGENDA ITEM IV, ASG, DEFENSE PLANNING AND POLICY (HUMPHREYS) BRIEFED MINISTERES ON NATO FORCE GOALS FOR PERIOD 1975-1980; BRIEFING WAS CONDENSED VERSION OF ONE GIVEN TO DPC PERM REPS ON MAY 27 AND IS BEING CIRCULATED AS DPC/D(74)14 (POUCHED). HUMPHREYS DESCRIBED FORCE GOALS AS WHAT NATO AS A WHOLE BELIEVS ARE REALISTIC PLANNING TARGETS FOR EACH COUNTRY AND WHOSE IMPLEMENTATION WOULD SLOW DOWN THE RATE OF DECLINE IN ALLIANCE DEFENSE EFFORT IN RELATION TO OUR GROWING ECONOMIES AND THE WARSAW PACT BUILD-UP.

2. HUMPHREYS CALLED ON CHAIRMAN MC (HILL-NORTON) FOR CONCLUDING

REMARKS ON PRESENTATION. HILL-NORTON AGREED THAT FORMATION OF FORCE GOALS IS PROBABLY ONE OF MOST IMPORTANT PHASES OF DEFENSE

PLANNING. HE SAID THIS YEAR'S REVIEW OF FORCE PROPOSALS/FORCE GOALS WAS BEST EVER DONE, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT RESULTING FORCE GOALS FALL LONG WAY SHORT OF WHAT MNC'S RECOMMENDED AND MC ENDORSED AS MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO CARRY OUT THE JOBS WHICH MINISTERS HAD GIVEN THEM. HILL-NORTON ADDED THAT THIS SHORT-FALL SOMEWHAT INCREASES THE RISK OVER THAT DEFINED FOR THE FORCE PROPOSALS; HOWEVER, THE DEGREE OF RISK IS NOT OF SUFFICIENT MAGNITUDE TO WARRANT A CHANGE IN THE RISK ASSESSMENT. HE BELIEVED FORCE PROPOSALS WERE IN CONSONANCE WITH THE FINANCIAL

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GUIDELINES CONTAINED IN MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, AND STRESSED THAT THE GOALS ONLY marginally MEET MINIMUM MILITARY NEEDS. HE CONCLUDED THAT IF THE GOALS ARE IMPLEMENTED THERE WOULD BE A TANGIBLE INCREASE IN ALLIANCE FORCE CAPABILITIES WHICH WOULD HELP REDRESS THE CURRENT TREND OF INCREASING IMBALANCE BETWEEN NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT CONVENTIONAL CAPABILITIES: NATIONS SHOULD NOW INCORPORATE THE GOALS INTO COUNTRY FORCE PLANS.

3. SYG LUNS IN OPENING DISCUSSION SAID CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS SECTIONS (PARAS 11 TO 13) OF DPC/D(74)10 SUM UP SIGNIFICANCE OF FORCE GOALS AND QUESTIONED PROPRIETY OF ENDORSING FORCE GOALS TO WHICH TWO COUNTRIES(NETHRLANDS AND UK) HAVE UNILATERALLY DETACHED THEMSELVES FROM ACCEPTING AS NATO TARGETS; LUNS EMPHASIZED MINISTERS MUST AVOID SETTING A PRECEDENT. HE SIGLED OUT CASE OF THE NETHERLANDS PROPOSING MAJOR CHANGES IN ITS DEFENSE PROGRAM, WHILE NATO IS IN THE MIDDLE

OF ESTABLISHING FORCE GOALS. HE ADDED ALL FORCE GOALS SHOULD STAND UNTIL A COUNTRY DEMONSTRATES TO ITS ALLIES, THAT CERTAIN GOALS ARE SIMPLY BEYOND ITS CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT. LUNS STATED THAT THE FORCE GOALS EXERCISE WILL HAVE BEEN FRUITLESS UNLESS COUNTRIES TAKE ACTION TO INCORPORATE THE GOALS INTO NATIONAL PLANS AND INVITED MINISTERS TO FULFILL THEIR ESPONSIBILITIES.

4. VANDEN BOEYNANTS (BELGIUM) AGREED TO FORCE GOAL OBJECTIVES AND SAID THAT NATIONAL RESERVATIONS MUST BE REMOVED WHEN COUNTRIES MAKE THEIR ANNUAL COMMITMENT OF FORCES IN DECEMBER. HE SPOKE OF DEEP PREOCCUPATION WITH NEW PLAN PRESENTED BY HIS DUTCH FRIENDS AND SAID THAT DUTCH PROBLEMS ARE, OR BECOME, BELGIAN PROBLMS. HE REFERRED TO SIMILARITIES IN ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS AND SPOKE OF DIRE REPERCUSSIONS IN BELGIUM IF DUTCH PLAN IS EMPLEMENTED. BELGIAN TROOPS WOULD BE FIRST VICTIMS IN REDUCTION OF DUTCH COVERAGE; HE DID NOT SEE WHO WOULD PICK-UP DUTCH COVERAGE AND BELGIUM WOULD EVENTUALLY BE COMPELLED TO TAKE THE SAME STEPS. HE INDICATED DUTCH PROPOSAL CAME AT A PARTICULARLY AWKWARD TIME BECAUSE HE IS REQUESTING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR PROFESSIONALIZATION AND EQUIPMENT; THE DUTCH PROPOSALS THREATEN THE BELGIAN POSITION.

5. LEBER (FRG) SAID HIS COUNTRY WOULD TRY TO MEET THE FORCE GOALS WITHIN LIMITS OF ITS CAPABILITIES AND HOPED THE TWO WERE IN ACCORD. HE OBJECTED TO USE IN PRESENTATION OF PERCENT OF GNP
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FOR DEFENSE AS THE SOLE YARDSTICK TO MEASURE NATIONAL DEFENSE EFFORTS. LEBER STRESSED THAT THIS APPROACH DID NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT GERMANY'S CONSIDERABLE CONTRIBUTION TO BURDENSARING, EXPENDITURES ON BERLIN, AND FACT THAT FRG HAD CONSCRIPT SERVICE AND NO NUCLEAR BILL TO PAY. HE HYPOTHESIZED IF FRG HAD AN ALL-VOLUNTEER FORCE ITS PERCENT OF GNP FOR DEFENSE WOULD INCREASE BY ONE AND A HALF PERCENT WITHOUT A CORRESPONDING INCREASE IN MILITARY OUTPUT. LEBER SAID FRG FEELS IT IS MEETING ITS ALLIANCE MILITARY REQUIREMENTS.

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SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 OIC-04 NEA-14 SAM-01 DRC-01 AEC-11

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R 142355Z JUN 74
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6382
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4153
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY MADRID
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT

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6. SYG LUNS RESPONDED THAT GNP IS A GOOD YARDSTICK, BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IT IS NOT THE ONLY ONE. HE REGRETTEED ANY IMPRESSION THAT THERE IS NOT GREAT SATISFACTION WITH THE FRG EFFORT.

7. COSTA GOMES (PORTUGAL) REFERRED TO CHANGE IN POLITICAL REGIME ON APRIL 21 PRIMARILY AIMED AT RESTORING FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOM OF PORTUGUESE PEOPLE AND ACKNOWLEDGED THAT PAST MILITARY CONTRIBUTION TO NATO, BECAUSE OF OVERSEAS WARS, WAS NOT AT DESIRED LEVEL. HE BELIEVED THAT, ONCE END OF OVERSEAS COMMITMENT REACHED, PORTUGAL'S CONTRIBUTION TO NATO WOULD IMPROVE. HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING PORTUGAL IS BANKING ON UNDERSTANDING AND FRENDSHIP OF ITS NATO ALLIES.

8. VREDELING (NETHERLANDS) REFERRED TO HIS STATEMENT BEFORE
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THE EUROGROUP ON JUNE 13, WHICH HE ASKED TO HAVE PLACED IN THE RECORD (SEE SEPTTEL). HE THEN RESPONDED TO ELLSWORTH'S QUESTION MADE DURING RESTRICTED SESSION ON RELATIONSHIP OF NEW DEFENSE

PLAN AND MBFR. HE STATED HE INTENDS TO CONFORM WITH NATO MBFR POLICY AGAINST UNILATERAL FORCE REDUCTIONS AND THIS PRINCIPLE WILL CONTINUE TO GOVERN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW PLANS FOR THE ARMY. PRESENT SCHEDULE FOR THE REDUCTION OF READY STRENGTH HAS BEEN BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT MBFR NEGOTIATIONS WILL HAVE ACHIEVED RESULTS AT THE TIME FORESEEN FOR THE START OF REDUCTIONS. IF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS ARE STILL GOING ON AND HAVE NOT ACHIEVED THE DESIRED RESULTS AT THE TIME FORESEEN FOR

REDUCTIONS, REDUCTIONS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALLIANCE POLICY, WILL HAVE TO BE SUSPENDED. HE GUARANTEED BEGIN QUOTE: THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANYTHING ELSE IN THE MIND OF THIS MINISTER OF DEFENSE. END QUOTE VREDELING EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT THE TONE OF VANDEN BOEYNANTS' REMARKS AND DREW ATTENTION TO THE DIFFICULTIES FOR SMALLER COUNTRIES TO MAINTAIN THE FULL SCALE OF PERSENT DEFENSE TASKS IN THE 1980'S BECAUSE OF THE GROWING COMPLEXITIES OF THESE TASKS; THUS, HE

REQUESTED A FUDAMENTAL REAPPRAISAL OF NATO'S DEFENSE POSTURE IN RELATION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATO STRATEGY IN THE CENTRAL REGION AND PROPOSED THAT MINISTERS ASK PERM REPS TO UNDERTAKE SUCH STUDY WITHOUT DELAY. HE SAID HE WANTED TO USE THE SAME MORALISTIC TONE THAT ELLSWORTH USED IN CLOSING THE RESTRICTED SESSION BUT INSTEAD OF QUOTING CHURCHILL, HE PREFERRED TO REFER TO HIS PERSONAL SUBTITLE FOR THE NETHERLANDS WHITE PAPER: "THE FREE MAN DOES NOT KNOW THE VALUE OF THINGS" (SOLZHENITSYN).

9. MASON (UK) SAID HE EXPLAINED BACKGROUND TO UK DEFENSE REVIEW AND WHAY IN WHICH UK INTENDS TO PROCEED IN STATEMENT SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD (SEE USNATO 3374). HE UNDERLINED THAT IT WAS AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND THAT FORCE GOALS MUST BE CONSIDERED. MASON RECOGNIZED IMPORTANCE OF FORCE GOALS EXERCISE AND ADDED THAT 1974 AD-70 REPORT SETS OUT CLEARLY ALLIANCE'S STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES AND FORCE GOALS PROVIDED TOOL FOR REMEDYING THE LATTER. THUS, ALTHOUGH UK WAS IN MIDST OF A MAJOR DEFENSE REVIEW, UK CONTINUED TO PARTICIPATE IN FORCE GOALS EXERCISE. IT WAS, HOWEVER, NECESSARY FOR UK TO REGISTER A SPECIAL RESERVATION WHEN DPC PERM REPS FORMALLY ADOPTED THE GOALS, AND
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AMBASSADOR PECK ACCEPTED UK FORCE GOALS ON UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY DO NO MORE THAN PROVIDE GUIDANCE ON PRIORITIES ATTACHED BY NATO AUTHORITIES TO VARIOUS AREAS OF FORCE PLANNING.

10. LATSLOUDIS (GREECE) SAID HIS COUNTRY WAS MAKING MAXIMUM EFFORT WITH NATIONAL FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT THE FORCE GOALS AND REMARKED IT WAS GENERALLY ACCEPTED THAT EXTERNAL AID WAS REQUIRED FOR GREECE TO MEET THE GOALS FULLY. HE EMPHASIZED THE VIRTUES OF COMMON DEFENSE AND INDICATED IF GLAOS NOT IMPLEMENTED GRAVE DEFICIENCIES WOULD RESULT IN THE VITAL SOUTHERN REGION.

11. ANDREOTTI (ITALY) RESUMED AFTERNOON DISCUSSION BY STATING ITALY REALIZED EACH COUNTRY MUST MODERNIZE ITS FORCES IN THE FACE OF INCREASING WP POTENTIAL. HE CHARACTERIZED FORCE GOALS AS REPRESENTING A FAIR BALANCE BETWEEN MILITARY REQUIREMENTS AND COUNTRY CAPABILITIES. ANDREOTTI POINTED OUT ITALY WAS EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTIES IN PREPARING A CLEAR-CUT FINANCIAL PROGRAM, EVEN IN THE MID-TERM, DUE TO UNCERTAINTY OVER ECONOMIC GROWTH RATE. HE ALSO QUESTIONED THE WISDOM OF USING PERCENT OF GNP DEVOTED TO DEFENSE AS THE SOLE BASIS FOR COMPARING DEFENSE EFFORTS AND STATED ITALY'S INTENTION TO MEET THE FORCE GOALS, PARTICULARLY THE MOST IMPORTANT ONES.

12. LEBER (FRG) SAID HIS GOVERNMENT OVER PAST WEEKS HAD CAREFULLY STUDIED THE DRAFT NETHERLANDS DEFENSE PLAN. HE APPRECIATED HIS OLD FRIEND VREDELING'S FRANKNESS AND WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS THIS DIFFICULT PROBLEM WHICH DIRECTLY TOUCHES ON NATO'S COMMON SECURITY. HE SAID EVERY MINISTER OF DEFENSE IS SUBJECT TO COMPETITION FOR FUNDS FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES

AND RESPONSIBILITIES; THIS IS NOT A SITUATION PECULIAR TO THE NETHERLANDS. HE SAID VREDELING IS JUSTIFIED IN POINTING OUT THAT THE NETHERLANDS IS NOT A LARGE COUNTRY, BUT THAT VREDELING DID NOT POINT OUT THAT IT IS A PROSPEROUS COUNTRY. HE FOUND FINANCIAL PRESSURES NOT A COMPELLING CAUSE FOR REDUCING THE NETHERLANDS EFFORT; HE SPECULATED THAT THE REASONS WERE POLITICAL.

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SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 OIC-04 NEA-14 SAM-01 AEC-11 DRC-01

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R 142335Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6383

SSECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4154

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN WOULD REDUCE THE COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS OF THE NETHERLANDS; IN THIS AGE NO NATION CAN GUARANTEE ITS OWN SECURITY. HE SAID FRG REPRESENTS BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST AND HYPOTHESIZED THAT IF THE WESTERN SIDE BECAME WEAKER, THE FRG WOULD HAVE TO INCREASE ITS MANPOWER CONTRIBUTION TO THE ALLIANCE. THIS SHIFT IN THE WEST'S INTERNAL BALANCE WOULD CAUSE POLITICAL QUESTIONS ABOUT "DOMINATING FACTOR" OF FRG FORCES IN EUROPE. LEBER SAID DUTCH REDUCTIONS COULD BE INTERPRETED BY THE EAST AS A SIGNAL FOR A MOVEMENT TOWARD GENERAL CUTS AND MIGHT HAMPER MBFR NEGOTIATIONS; WP WOULD JUST WAIT FOR CONTINUATION OF SIGNAL SET BY DUTCH. HE ADDED WESTERN SECURITY IS AT STAKE AND EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT CUTS BECOME CONTAGIOUS. HE QUESTIONED WHETHER THE STRATEGIC CONCEPT OF FORWARD DEFENSE WOULD STILL WORK IF EROSION STARTED. HE DREW PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO PLANNED WITHDRAWALS FROM NATO'S HAWK BELT. LEBER ALSO ASKED HOW SECRETARY

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SCHLESINGER COULD RESPOND TO CONGRESSIONAL QUESTION: IF THE EUROPEANS (NETHERLANDS) CAN REDUCE, WHY CANNOT THE U.S., HE ACCENTED THAT FUNDS SPENT FOR DEFENSE ARE A BURDEN ON EACH NATION'S ECONOMY AND THAT FOR DEFENSE TO BE CREDIBLE THERE IS A THRESHOLD BELOW WHICH IT CANNOT DESCEND.

13. SCHAUS (LUXEMBOURG) REMARKED THAT RECENT ELECTIONS HAD CHANGED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE POLITICAL PARTIES IN LUXEMBOURG AND THAT THE LEFT-CENTER IS FORMING ITS FIRST GOVERNMENT IN 50 YEARS. HE BELIEVED HE COULD ASSERT THAT GOVERNMENT COMING INTO POWER WOULD NOT FUNDAMENTALLY ALTER LUXEMBOURG'S UPPORT TO THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. HOWEVER, SINCE HIS GOVERNMENT WAS STEPPING OUT, HE COULD NOT UNDERTAKE FRESH COMMITMENTS FOR THE 1975-80 PLANNING PERIOD.

14. ERALP (TURKISH PERM REP) NOTED THAT DRC HAD DIVIDED TURKISH FORCE GOALS INTO THOSE TO BE IMPLEMENTED WITH 1) NATIONAL FUNDS AND 2) EXTERNAL AID. HE FELD THIS APPROACH WAS RELAIISTIC AND PRESENTED TURKEY WITH A REASONABLE CHALLENGE. ERALP STRESSED THAT TURKS WILL DO THEIR UTMOST TO IMPLEMENT THE GOALS ON THE NATIONAL LIST AND THAT THE GOALS ON THE EXTERNAL AID LIST WERE AS MUCH GOALS FOR THE WHOLE ALLIANCE AS FOR TURKEY.

15. MENZIES (CANADIAN PERM REP) SAID CANADA REGARDS FORCE GOALS AS A PROPER CHALLENGE, BUT ADDED HIS AUTHORITIES INTERPRET DPC/D(74)10 TO MEAN CANADA WILL TAKE THE GOALS INTO FULL ACCOUNT AS A FACTOR IN FORWARD NATIONAL PLANNING. THE MANNER IN WHICH CANADA WILL MEET THE GOALS WILL BE TAKEN UP DURING THE 1974 DPQ EXERCISE.

16. BRONDUM (DENMARK) SAID NEW MINORITY DANISH GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TRADITIONAL POLICIES BASED ON MEMBERSHIP IN NATO; THIS PLLICY IS SUPPORTED BY MAJORITY OF PARLIAMENT. HE ASSERTED THAT NATO IS MOST IMPORTANT FORUM FOR COORDINATION BETWEEN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA. BRONDUM RECOGNIZED DEFICIENCIES IN THE ALLIANCE'S DEFENSE POSTURE AND FELT IMPLEMENTATION OF FORCE GOALS WOULD REMEDY MOST OF THESE WEAKINESSES. HE SAID THE GOALS CONSTITUTE A CONSIDERABLE EFFORT FOR DENMARK, THAT NOT ALL CAN BE COMPLETELY MET, BUT DENMARK WOULD DO ITS BEST. HE CITED GRAVE DANISH ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, SINGLING OUT ADVERSE
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BALANCE OFPAYMENTS AND OIL CRISIS. DESPITE THESE FACTORS, DENMARK IS DETERMINED TO AVOID CUTS IN ITS DEFENSE BUDGET SO IT CAN MODERNIZE ITS EQUIPMENT; EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT IS UP TO 25 PERCENT OF THE DEFENSE BUDGET. DENMARK HAS NO LOCAL ARMAMENT INDUSTRY AND MUST IMPORT ALL ITS WEAPONS. HE SAID HE HAD JUST SIGNED CONTRACTS FOR NEW EQUIPMENT WORTH APPROXIMATELY \$200 MILLION AND THAT THIS IS EQUAL TO WHAT DEMARK SPENT OVER LAST

5 YEARS ON NEW EQUIPMENT. DENMARK INTENDS TO MAINTAIN ITS DEFENSE BUDGET IN REAL TERMS IN THIS PERIOD OF INFLATION.

17. SECDEF REP (ELLSWORTH) REFERRED TO POINTS MADE BY SEVERAL MINISTERS. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT: DUTCH REDUCTIONS COULD HAVE AN IMPACT ON MBFR; THERE IS A HIGH PROBABILITY OF CONTAGION; BALANCE AMONG WEST EUROPEANS IS IMPORTANT; AND REDUCTIONS HOLD POTENTIAL FOR CAUSING NATO TO CHANGE ITS BASIC STRATEGY, MC 14/3. ELLSWORTH STRESSED (AS DR. SCHLESINGER HAS OFTEN REPEATED) THAT THERE ARE GREAT DEMANDS ON RESOURCES, MANPOWER, AND EQUIPMENT AND NATO MUST FOCUS ITS ATTENTION ON RATIONALIZATION, STANDARDIZATION AND INCREASED FLEXIBILITY BY SUCH MEASURES AS REORGANIZING AIR FORCES IN THE CENTRAL REGION. HE SAID ALLIANCE MEMBERS MUST OVERCOME THE TREND TO BE PAROCHIAL AND NARROW IN THEIR APPROACHES TO THE DEFENSE OF WESTERN EUROPE. ELLSWORTH EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THOROUGH AND DETAILED REVIEW OF MC FORCE PROPOSALS BY DRC AND SAID REVIEW POINTED UP NEED FOR MORE SPECIFIC MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, BOTH FOR PRIORITIES AND LEVELS OF RESOURCES. HE HOPED THAT BY DECEMBER MINISTERIAL MEETING, DPC IN PERMANENT SESSION COULD DEVELOP THE MAJOR CONTENT ON KEY ELEMENTS OF THE NEXT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE.

18. FOSTERVOLL (NORWAY) WELCOMED FORCE GOALS MORE IN LINE WITH NATIONAL DEFENSE PLANNING AND SAID NEW FIVE-YEAR DEFENSE PROGRAM RECENTLY DEBATED IN PARLIAMENT DOES NOT SIGNIFICANTLY ALTER PREVIOUS FIVE-YEAR PLAN. NORWAY PLANS TO INCREASE DEFENSE EXPENDITURES BY 2 PERCENT ANNUALLY IN REAL TERMS, INCLUDING COMPENSATION FOR WAGE AND PRICE INCREASES. HE NOTED ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT-APPOINTED DEFENSE COMMISSION WITH A MANDATE TO EXAMINE ALL FACETS OF NORWEGIAN DEFENSE POLICY, INCLUDING NEW TASKS ALONG NORWEGIAN COAST. COMMISSION'S REPORT IS DUE BY END 1975.

19. VREDELING (NETHERLANDS) SAID HE FELT LIKE THE DEFENDENT
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IN A COURT CASE AND WOULD ACCEPT THE CRITICISM DIRECTED TOWARD THE NETHERLANDS, BUT THAT ONE MUST ACCEPT DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSTRAINTS IN DEMOCRACIES. HE SAID A MINISTER CAN DO NO MORE THAN WHAT THE MAJORITY IS READY TO ACCEPT. HE STATED THAT REACTION HAD BEEN OVERLY PESSIMISTIC; THAT THE NETHERLANDS IS STILL A RELIABLE ALLY; AND THAT THE NETHERLANDS ALSO HAD SOME CRITICISM TO MAKE CONCERNING HOW DEFENSE OF WESTERN EUROPE IS ORGANIZED (NOT BY THE AMERICANS BUT BY THE EUROPEANS). VREDELING STATED IT IS TIME TO DISCUSS HOW NATO ORGANIZES ITS DEFENSE. REFERRING TO LEBER'S QUESTION ABOUT WHETHER THE NETHERLANDS STILL BELIEVES IN NATO'S STRATEGY; VREDELING SAID THE NETHERLANDS DID BELIEVE IN THE STRATEGY BUT HAD DOUBTS ABOUT THE WAY NATO PLANNED TO IMPLEMENT THE STRATEGY. HE STRESSED THAT NETHERLANDS' PLAN IS FOR THE 1980'S AND THAT THE NETHERLANDS CANNOT REPLACE THE F-104 AND THE HAWK/NIKE AS WELL AS ACCOMPLISH OTHER DEFENSE IMPROVEMENTS. CHOICES HAVE TO BE MADE. HE SAID

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASIER TO TREAT THE DRAFT DUTCH PLAN AS IT IS USUALLY DONE AT NATO; I.E., NOT IN SUCH DETAIL AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL. HOWEVER, VREDELING SAID NETHERLANDS CONSIDERED IT IMPORTANT TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION THOROUGHLY AND HE CAME PREPARED TO LISTEN TO CRITICISM AND REPORT BACK TO THE CABINET. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT UNILATERAL CUTS COULD HAVE AN ADVERSE IMPACT IN THE U.S.

20. HILL-NORTON (CHAIRMAN, MC) SAID NATO'S STRATEGY DEPENDS ON A CREDIBLE CONVENTIONAL CAPABILITY AND THERE IS NO ROOM FOR UNILATERAL REDUCTIONS. NETHERLANDS' REDUCTIONS WOULD DEGRADE THIS CAPABILITY AND LOWER THE NUCLEAR THRESHOLD. HE ALSO EXPRESSED ALARM OVER CONTAGION. HE STATED THE MC, WITH THE ADVICE OF THE NMCS, HAD STUDIED THE NETHERLANDS PLAN WITH GREAT CARE. HE CITED SIX AREAS OF GRAVE CONCERN IF THE DUTCH IMPLEMENTED THEIR PLAN:

- 1) REDUCTION IN 1ST CORPS TO THE EXTENT IT COULD NO LONGER DISCHARGE ITS MISSIONS;
- 2) WITHDRAWAL OF NIKE AND HAWK BATTERIES WOULD STRIKE AT HEART OF INTEGRATED AIR DEFENSE STRUCTURE;
- 3) DELAY IN REPLACEMENT OF F-104 AND FAILURE TO PROVIDE PEACETIME REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT FOR THOSE LOST THROUGH NORMAL SECRET

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ATTRITION WOULD PROGRESSIVELY WEAKEN CENTER REGIONS'S TACTICAL AIR CAPABILITIES;

- 4) REDUCTION IN CONTROL OF SEA LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS;
- 5) REDUCTION IN CONSCRIPTION SERVICE; AND
- 6) PROPOSALS ON SPECIALIZATION DO NOT INDICATE COMPENSATORY INCREASE IN OTHER AREAS.

21. SYG LUNS HEATEDLY EXPRESSED CONCERN AT A DEFENSE MINISTER (VREDELING) BLUNTLY STATING BEGIN QUOTE: WITHOUT SUBSTANTIATION END QUOTE. THAT HIS COUNTRY CANNOT FULFILL MINIMUM REQUIREMENT OF ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP. LUNS SAID NETHERLANDS SPENDING IN OTHER AREAS SUCH AS EDUCATION AND FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, DEMONSTRATED THEY COULD AFFORD AN ADEQUATE DEFENSE. HE ASKED WHY THE NETHERLANDS COULD NOT SPEND A SIMILAR PERCENT OF GNP FOR DEFENSE AS WERE A NUMBER OF CONSIDERABLY LESS WEALTHY COUNTRIES AND FURTHER COMPLAINED THAT NO ONE IN AUTHORITY HAD TAKEN STEPS TO QUELL ANTI-NATO SENTIMENT IN THE NETHERLANDS.

22. VREDELING SHARPLY RESPONDED THAT: LUNS WAS REACTING MORE AS A DUTCH CITIZEN THAN AS SYG; THAT NETHERLANDS WAS WILLING TO EXPAND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE ALLIANCE IN THOSE FIELDS WHERE IT WAS BEST QUALIFIED; AND THAT NETHERLANDS WAS NOT PROPOSING

TO CHANGE NATO'S STRATEGY, BUT RATHER HOW IT WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED --
BEGIN QUOTE: NATO MUST PUT ITS OWN HOUSE IN ORDER. END QUOTE.

23. LUNS, IN SUMMING UP, NOTED PRESENTATION; SAID FORCE GOALS
WERE ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO STATEMENTS MADE BY DEFENSE MINISTERS;
NOTED CRITICISM FROM VAST MAJORITY OF MINISTERS AND CHAIRMAN,
MC OF PROPOSED DUTCH PLAN; NOTED STATEMENT BY DUTCH MOD OF INTENTION
TO CONFORM WITH NATO MBFR POLICY AGAINST UNILATERAL REDUCTIONS; AND
RECOMMENDED DPC PERM REPS MADE AN EARLY START ON DEVELOPMENT OF
NEXT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE.

24. VREDELING PLACED A RESERVATION ON SYG'S SUMMATION; LUNS
REPLIED THAT HE HAD ONLY SAID BEGIN QUOTE: VAST MAJORITY OF
MINISTERS. END QUOTE.MCAULIFFE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO03427
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS 12-31-82
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: DPC/D(74)10
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <08 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING JUNE 14, 1974: AGENDA ITEM IV, FORCE GOALS FOR THE PERIOD 1975-1980
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
GENEVA
MADRID
MBFR VIENNA
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005